



IRW

PATENT
P57016

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

SU-JIN HAN, *et al.*

Serial No.: 10/791,854

Examiner: *To be assigned*

Filed: 4 March 2004

Art Unit: 1746

For: SECONDARY BATTERY

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O.Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.56, and §§1.97 and 1.98 as amended, Applicant cites, describes, and provides copies of the following art references. Under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2) however, copies of U.S. patent reference(s) are not provided.

FOREIGN PATENT REFERENCE:

- Japanese Patent Publication No. 11-96987 to Nagura, *et al.*, entitled *DEGASSING METHOD DURING INITIAL CHARGE OF LITHIUM SECONDARY BATTERY AND ITS DEGASSING STRUCTURE*, published on 9 April 1999 (with English abstract).

OTHER DOCUMENTS:

- Chinese Office Action for Chinese Patent Application No. 200410032488.2, issued on 22 December 2006.

DISCUSSION

According to the Chinese Office Action, **Nagura, *et al.*, JP'987**, discloses that this is composed of a pan bottom shape recessed part 3 formed roundly at a can lid 1a, an injection port 5 formed concentrically opened at the most bottom end of the recessed part 3, and a metallic ball 4 contained in the recessed part. A sliding surface material 11 that is non-soluble to an electrolytic solution is injected between a periphery of the injection port 5 and the metallic ball 4 so as to return the electrolytic solution that adheres inside of the recessed part 3 to inside a battery can. When an inside pressure becomes to be high by a generated gas during initial charge, the metallic ball 4 rises by the gas to release the gas outside the battery can. After completing the initial charge, the metallic ball 4 is resistance welded between the recessed part 3 to seal. Thereby, an initial charge can be easily performed in a normal working room.

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(d), the undersigned attorney hereby certifies that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign patent application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of the statement.

The citation of the foregoing references is not intended to constitute an assertion that other or more relevant art does not exist. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to make a wide-ranging and thorough search of the relevant art.

No fee is incurred by this Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "R. E. Bushnell", is written over a horizontal line.

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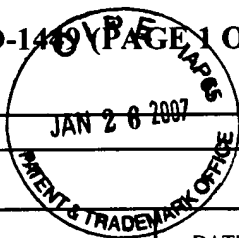
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

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APPLICANT SU-JIN HAN, *et al.*

FILING DATE 4 March 2004

GROUP 1746

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

TRANSLATION

	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	YES	NO
	JP 11-96987	04/1999	JAPAN			Abstract	

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

	Chinese Office Action for Chinese Patent Application No. 200410032488.2, issued on 22 December 2006.

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP §609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.